



UNCLASSIFIED



## House Armed Services Committee

### DAILY SUMMARY – OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Current as of 12:00 p.m. EST April 15, 2003



#### Iraqi Forces Update

- Central Command states that "...major Iraqi units on the ground cease to show resistance."
- Hard line Ba'ath Party loyalists, Fedayeen Saddam and non-Iraqi Arab fighters continue to offer sharp resistance in scattered pockets across Iraq.

#### Coalition Forces Update

- Elements of the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division moved into Baghdad Tuesday morning to relieve the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Expeditionary Brigade in the city's eastern section.
- Special Operations forces continue to conduct reconnaissance and direct action missions against remaining pockets of resistance.
- With the end of major combat operations, Central Command announced it is sending home some B-2 Spirit bombers, F-117 Nighthawk stealth fighters, and the U.S.S. *Constellation* and U.S.S. *Kitty Hawk* aircraft carrier battle groups.
- Central Command also stated that the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division in Fort Hood, Texas will not deploy to the region, and that only elements of the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division in Germany will move to the theater.

#### Significant Events in Last 24 Hours

- Elements of the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Expeditionary Force seized the town of Tikrit, the ancestral home of Saddam Hussein and the last major regime stronghold in Iraq.
- A Central Command spokesman states that "major combat operations are over" in Iraq, and that the focus of U.S. forces in the country will now turn to restoring order and providing humanitarian assistance.